

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) Finely divided hard bodies ~~moulded body~~ comprising a material ~~materials~~ having a hardness ≥ 7 on the Mohs hardness scale which ~~form the moulded body or are~~ is present directly on a finely divided substrate as impermeable coating in the form of one or more layers.

2. (Currently Amended) Finely divided hard bodies ~~moulded body~~ according to Claim 1, which are pigments ~~characterised in that it is a pigment~~.

3. (Currently Amended) Finely divided hard bodies ~~moulded body~~ according to Claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that the moulded body or the finely divided substrate is in~~ flake form.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) Finely divided hard bodies ~~moulded body~~ according to claim 1, which are obtained ~~obtainable~~ by wet-chemical precipitation of a primary layer comprising one or more layers on a finely divided substrate and subsequent calcination with formation of an impermeable coating in the form of one or more layers of a material ~~materials~~ having a hardness ≥ 7 on the Mohs hardness scale on the substrate or by single or repeated coating of a finely divided substrate with a material ~~materials~~ having a hardness ≥ 7 on the Mohs hardness scale by a CVD and/or PVD process ~~processes~~.

6. (Currently Amended) Finely divided hard bodies ~~moulded body~~ according to Claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the finely divided substrate comprises natural or synthetic mica, metal flakes, glass flakes, SiO₂ flakes, TiO₂ flakes or iron oxide flakes.

7. (Currently Amended) Finely divided hard bodies ~~moulded body~~ according to Claim 6, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the metal flakes are flakes ~~consist of~~ aluminum ~~aluminium~~, titanium, bronze, steel or silver.

8. (Currently Amended) Finely divided hard bodies ~~moulded body~~ according to Claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the material having a hardness ≥ 7 on the Mohs hardness scale comprises aluminum ~~aluminium~~ oxide, zirconium oxide or a mixture thereof ~~and/or mixtures thereof~~.

9. (Currently Amended) Finely divided hard bodies ~~moulded body~~ according to claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that the thickness of the finely divided moulded body comprising a material having a hardness ≥ 7 on the Mohs hardness scale is 0.05 to 6 μm or the thickness of the coating applied to a finely divided substrate in the form of one or more layers of a material~~ materials having a hardness ≥ 7 on the Mohs hardness scale is 40 to 400 nm.

10. (Currently Amended) Finely divided hard bodies ~~moulded body~~ according to claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that the finely divided~~ bodies have ~~moulded body has~~ additionally been coated with one or more transparent, semi-transparent and/or opaque layers comprising a metal oxide, metal oxide hydrate, metal suboxide, metal, metal fluoride, metal nitride, metal oxynitride or a mixture thereof ~~metal oxides, metal oxide hydrates, metal suboxides, metals, metal fluorides, metal nitrides, metal oxynitrides or mixtures of these materials~~.

11. (Currently Amended) Finely divided hard bodies ~~moulded body~~ according to Claim 10, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ a further layer of a material ~~materials~~ having a hardness ≥ 7 on the Mohs hardness scale has additionally been applied.

12. (Currently Amended) Finely divided hard bodies ~~moulded body~~ according to Claim 11, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the thickness of the further layer of a material having a hardness ≥ 7 on the Mohs hardness scale is 20 to 80 nm.

13. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing ~~Process for the production of~~ finely divided hard ~~moulded~~ bodies according to Claim 1, wherein the ~~characterised in that a moulded body is formed from materials having a hardness ≥ 7 on the Mohs hardness scale or a finely divided substrate is provided with an impermeable coating in the form of one or more~~

layers of a material materials having a hardness ≥ 7 on the Mohs hardness scale.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) A process ~~Process~~ according to Claim 13, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ a primary layer comprising one or more layers is precipitated onto a finely divided substrate by a wet-chemical method ~~methods~~ and calcined with formation of an impermeable coating in the form of one or more layers of a material materials having a hardness ≥ 7 on the Mohs hardness scale or a substrate is coated one or more times with a material materials having a hardness ≥ 7 on the Mohs hardness scale by a CVD and/or PVD process ~~processes~~.

16. (Currently Amended) A process ~~Process~~ according to claim 13, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the material having a hardness ≥ 7 on the Mohs hardness scale comprises aluminum ~~aluminium~~ oxide, zirconium oxide or a mixture thereof ~~and/or mixtures thereof~~.

17. (Currently Amended) A process ~~Process~~ according to claim 13, wherein the finely divided hard bodies are ~~characterised in that the moulded body is~~ additionally coated with one or more transparent, semi-transparent and/or opaque layers comprising a metal oxide, metal oxide hydrate, metal suboxide, metal, metal fluoride, metal nitride, metal oxynitride or a mixture thereof ~~metal oxides, metal oxide hydrates, metal suboxides, metals, metal fluorides, metal nitrides, metal oxynitrides or mixtures of these materials~~.

18. (Currently Amended) A process ~~Process~~ according to Claim 17, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the one or more transparent, semi-transparent and/or opaque layers are applied by a wet-chemical, sol-gel, CVD and/or PVD process ~~processes~~.

19. (Currently Amended) A process ~~Process~~ according to Claim 17, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the applied transparent, semi-transparent and/or opaque layers are calcined.

20. (Currently Amended) A process ~~Process~~ according to claim 17, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ a further layer of a material materials having a hardness ≥ 7 on the Mohs

hardness scale is additionally applied.

21. (Currently Amended) A method Use of finely divided hard moulded bodies according to Claim 1 in polymer matrices for increasing the abrasion stability of a polymer matrix comprising applying to the polymer matrix finely divided hard bodies according to Claim 1.

22. (Currently Amended) A method Use according to Claim 21, wherein characterised in that the polymer matrix is a plastic composition of article, a paint, a coating or an ink matrices are plastics, paints, coatings or inks.

23. (Currently Amended) An abrasion-stable polymer matrix Abrasion-stable polymer matrices comprising finely divided hard moulded bodies according to Claim 1.

24. (New) Finely divided hard bodies according to Claim 11, wherein the material having a hardness ≥ 7 on the Mohs hardness scale comprises aluminum oxide, zirconium oxide and/or a mixture thereof.

25. (New) Process according to claim 20, wherein the material having a hardness ≥ 7 on the Mohs hardness scale comprises aluminum oxide, zirconium oxide and/or a mixture thereof.